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MEETING MINUTES

TO: Distribution **DATE:** March 22, 1995
FROM: Phil Nixon *PN* **DOC #:** SP307:032295:02
PROJECT: Solar Evaporation Ponds, OU4 IM/IRA
SUBJECT: Joint Working Group Weekly Meeting

ATTENDANCE:

Andy Ledford, EG&G
Joe Mellen, EG&G
Harlen Ainscough, CDPHE
Arturo Duran, EPA
Briand Wu, DOE
Jeff Ciocco, DOE
Tom Peters, PRC
Phil Nixon, Parsons ES

DISTRIBUTION:

Scott Surovchak, DOE
Steve Howard, SAIC/DOE
John Haasbeek, ERM
Steve Keith, EG&G
Eileen Jemison, EG&G
M. Matthews, EG&G, (2)
Rick Wilkinson
Central Files (9.1.5.3)

1. Discussion/Ratification of Previous Meeting Minutes

The meeting minutes from the previous meeting were ratified. Andy Ledford stated that the target date of September 30, 1995 for the removal of Building 964 has changed to December, 1995.

2. Waste Acceptance Criteria for Processed Pond Wastes

Andy Ledford discussed the criteria that were developed for the processing of sludge and pondcrete. Mr. Ledford stated that the primary criterion was the removal of free liquids as per the paint filter test and a requirement that it could be demonstrated that the consolidation of these materials was protective of human health and the environment. The materials could arrive in a monolithic form and be crushed by the OU4 closure contractor, or the sludge/pondcrete process could deliver particulate materials which would not need to be crushed at the closure site. The remaining criteria focused on the ability to consolidate the processed sludge and pondcrete so that 95% modified proctor compaction can be achieved to maximize the stability

of the consolidated materials. Other significant criteria include a restriction on pathogens, and gas production from decomposition of organic materials (wood pallets/tri-wall containers).

Joe Mellen provided a summary of the actions that Brown & Root have conducted to-date with respect to the ongoing treatability studies. The work that has been performed to date, includes bench scale testing and conceptual design. Brown & Root received samples of the waste materials and has performed numerous solidification mixes. The preferred mix includes flyash, lime, and Portland cement (Type I). Brown & Root is now preparing a conceptual design for a process to provide the preferred solidification mixture. Mr. Mellen indicated that Brown & Root would provide the processed materials to the SEP closure team in a particulate form rather than a monolithic form.

Arturo Duran specified that the EPA questions the need for total chemical fixation and solidification. The reason for this question is that the primary purpose for the processing is to dewater the pond waste materials. Arturo stated that the VLEACH Modeling in the IM/IRA-EA Decision Document indicates that under conservative assumptions the closure is protective of human health and the environment. The EPA questions if the use of a filter press and/or dryer was considered for the removal of free liquids. Joe Mellen responded that Brown & Root did an alternatives evaluation and concluded that the solidification technology was the appropriate solution. Dr. Wu stated that the sludge processing team would provide a presentation on their evaluation of alternatives at the next team meeting. Mr. Duran concluded the discussion on this topic by saying that the EPA considers the engineered cover to be a conservative design and does not feel that the pondcrete/sludge treatment needs to be overly conservative.

3. Subsurface Drain

The DOE provided 2 copies of the IM/IRA 60% design package to the EPA and the CDPHE. The concurrent DOE/EG&G/EPA/CDPHE design review is scheduled to be complete on April 10, 1995. Tom Peters requested that a water balance calculation be submitted for EPA/PRC review. Mr. Peters indicated that a water balance calculation will demonstrate the effectiveness of the design. Dr. Wu concurred that Parsons ES can work directly with PRC to satisfy the EPA/PRC that the design of the subsurface drain is adequate. Parsons ES needs to report back to the team with respect to the status of these activities.

4. Permitting Checklist

Andy Ledford stated that in response to permitting questions at the previous team meeting, EG&G/Parsons ES is preparing a permitting matrix which identifies the various permits that could be required for implementation of the IM/IRA project. The matrix will identify and justify which permits are required and the intended administrative method of satisfying the permit requirements. The matrix also identifies the responsible parties for permit preparation and review/approval. Dr. Wu requested that the working group review the matrix for discussions at the next team meeting.

Harlen Ainscough indicated that his colleagues at the CDPHE are not sure that the Temporary Unit (TU) is the appropriate method for permitting the sludge/pondcrete processing units. Mr. Ainscough indicated that the processing units may need to be permitted as RCRA Subpart X "Miscellaneous Units."

5. Other Issues

Dr. Wu requested that information needs and requests for meetings be directed to himself so that he can stay informed of the arising issues and can ensure that the appropriate group/person is assigned to respond with the proper information. It was agreed that if Dr. Wu can not be contacted, then Scott Surovchak should be contacted. The third point of contact is Andy Ledford.

Andy Ledford reported that the Citizens Advisory (CAB) Subcommittee voted 7 to 3 to recommend that the full CAB committee endorse the DOEs Proposed IM/IRA with the only condition being an extension of the post-closure monitoring period.

Harlen Ainscough informed Dr. Wu that the issue concerning the 750 and 904 pad permits is not an OU4 issue. It is a permit issue. OU4 is involved in the issue only because the proposed plan is to locate the Temporary Units for sludge/pondcrete processing on these pads. Mr. Ainscough said that the DOE needs to resolve the permit issues so that the OU4 project is not impacted.

6. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on March 29, 1995. The agenda will include the following items.

- Sludge/pondcrete processing presentation,
- Presentation of the geotechnical analysis and the potential for faults in the vicinity of OU4, and
- Permitting requirements.


Philip A. Nixon, Project Manager
OU4 Solar Evaporation Ponds